

FALL 2019

Fall Greetings from Sue



Thank you to all of our members who joined us for the "No Bell" brunch in September. It was great to welcome our new retirees and connect with the members who were able to join us. With the federal elections (October 21st) just around the corner, we remind everyone to get out and vote for the candidate of their choice. The LRTA joined with the local Seniors group to host all-candidates meetings for both the Township of Langley and Langley City / Cloverdale constituencies. The LRTA executive is busy planning for the November 12th luncheon at Newlands and the annual School District Foundation's "Silent Auction". Funds raised go directly to the Retired Educator's Scholarship Fund and it is a fun event to attend so please be sure to mark it on your calendar. If you would like to get a group of colleagues and friends together and reserve a table, please let Maureen Wilson know. We are planning a workshop for early spring (date to be announced) on organizing your photos using iPad or iPhone. As information is finalized, we will keep you informed. Several of our executive members attended the BCRTA conference and AGM in Richmond on October 3 - 5th. It was really a worthwhile conference with opportunities to meet with other branches from our zone to share ideas and common interests. For more information see the report Maureen has included in the newsletter. We would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and look forward to seeing you on the 12th.

LRTA Luncheons for 2019-2020

Please mark the following dates on your calendar. Please note that the doors will open at 11:15 AM, and lunch will be served at 12:00 noon.

Venue: Newlands Golf and Country Club*

Cost: \$25

- November 12, 2019
- February 25, 2020
- May 26, 2020

*Please note it will be usually in the Regency Ballroom.



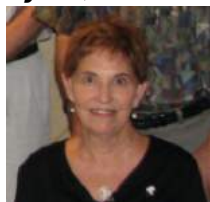
LRTA Executive 2019-2020



Front Row: **Maureen Pepin** (Member-at-large), **Sue Mackenzie** (President), **Judy de Vries** (Member-at-large), **Wayne Wiebe** (Secretary), **Gail Chaddock-Costello** (Programs)

Back Row: **John Salmon** (Treasurer), **Annette O'Connor** (Member-at-large), **Maureen Wilson** (Past President, Newsletter, Luncheons committee, BCRTA/LRTA liaison), **Heather Anderlini** (Vice president), **George Main** (LRTA Webmaster)

Absent: **Jan Bryce** (Luncheons committee)



Jacque Hollybow (Sunshine)



SUNSHINE REPORT

~Submitted by Jacque Hollybow~

As your Sunshine person, I am available to send cards to members to recognize significant events, or if they are experiencing a serious illness themselves or have lost a family member. If you know of such a situation in the life of a Langley Retired Teachers' Association member you can notify me by phone: (604) 888-7020 or e-mail: jhollybow@hotmail.com or any of the executive and a card will be sent.



Delegates' Report from 74th BCRTA Annual General Meeting & Conference October 3-5 2019, Richmond, B.C.

The BCRTA AGM was held in Richmond October 3-5 2019. Heather Anderlini, Annette O'Connor and I attended as delegates from LRTA and Maureen Wilson attended as a non-voting member. Judy deVries attended as President of RR Smith. The conference was well organized as always, informative and worthwhile.

We attended an informative seminar on Thursday afternoon on website, email and communication presented by Tim Anderson. If you are interested in viewing the points discussed, you can download Tim's powerpoint by pasting the following URL into your web browser: bcrta.ca/techseminar

We registered for the conference, the theme of which, was 'living well'. We attended the "Meet and Greet" in the evening. We enjoyed the appies, and were entertained by a concert band, composed of senior members, who played many oldies.

On Friday morning, we enjoyed an informative and humorous presentation by Dr Art Hister on seniors' wellness. Many are familiar with Dr. Hister from his wellness broadcast on Global news. He promotes a common sense approach to one's health. Dr. Hister also stressed the importance of social interaction. He pointed out that it is very important to be open to the idea of having a hearing test. Being hard of hearing can affect one's cognitive function, as well as social relationships.

We had two activity breaks with Kathleen Thomson who guided us through exercises that included balance, stretching, strength training and a bit of aerobics with and without use of 'therabands'.

The next presentation was 'Good Riddance -Organizing Solutions'. Susan Borax and Heather Knittel provided an interesting seminar on the negative impact of clutter in our lives, identifying CRUD (Completely Ridiculous, Useless Sebris) and methods for "showing clutter the door" using the sort, purge, assign, contain, and equalize strategies.

BCRTA Golden Star Awards - Stephan Cieslik presented a slide show of the 2019 winners of the Golden Star Awards winners. These awards are made to public school programs that feature the interaction between students and seniors. The winners were:

Arthur Stevenson Elementary, Kamloops, Muheim Memorial Elementary, Smithers, Qualicum Beach Elementary, Strawberry Vale Elementary, Victoria, Westcot Elementary, West Vancouver, L.V. Rogers Secondary, Nelson

Acer-Cart (Canadian Association of Retired Teachers)

Dale Lauber spoke about the success of Acer-Cart in its work regarding e-Petition C-27 which was read out in Parliament. Some of the ongoing concerns of Acer-Cart are: National Pharmacare Plan, Pension and retirement income security, Adherence to the principles of the Canada Health Act: universality, portability, accessibility, comprehensiveness and public administration.

President's Updates

Gerry Tiede reported that the Pension Plan is healthy. Our 5 year annualized rate of return is 8.2%. The indexing granted in 2019 is 2.2%. He expressed that the issues most important to members are pension security and national pharamcare. Under strategic planning update Gerry reported that the first year of free membership in the BCRTA will continue and that the BCRTA continues to improve and increase services available to members through Advantage programs and Group Travel programs. Gerry noted one

improvement is the **Johnson program now has vaccine coverage of \$100 per calendar year**. A focus in the coming year will be on strengthening and improving Communications through the BCTRA Website, BCRTA Connections, Postscript, Facebook and Twitter. Gerry thanked and acknowledged the hard work and cooperation of BCRTA Office Team - Tim Anderson, Kristi Josephson and Laurie Boyd.

Survey Results

Tim Anderson reported the findings of the survey sent out in the Spring of 2019 to find out members interest and/or concerns and involvement with their local branches. About 300 surveys were completed online and 1200 on paper. For a confidence level of 99% 640 responses were required so this was reached. Highest rated items: Advocacy for Pension Security, PostScript Magazine, Personal Support from BCRTA. Things to work on : Branch Engagement and Local Travel Options, Interests Not Yet Addressed and Better Use of Advantage Programs. For more detailed information go to bcrt.ca/surveyresults

Saturday, October 5th AGM

Elections for the BCRTA Executive were held. The following positions were all elected by acclamation.

President: Gerry Tiede (Surrey)

1st Vice President: Grace Wilson (Nelson)

2nd Vice President: Arnie Lambert (Parksville-Qualicum)

ACER-CART: Steve Bailey (Sunshine Coast, Burnaby)

Director -- Inside the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley Regions:

- Floyd Smith (Surrey)

- Pat Thiesen (Delta)

Director -- Outside the Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley Regions:

- Terry Green (South Okanagan)

- Elaine Thompson (Bulkley Valley)

Langley Retired Teachers Honoured For Their Tireless Work With the BCRTA



Gerry Tiede presented another of our LRTA members, Dale Lauber, was awarded a BCRTA lifetime membership for his work on pensions for many years, and recently, ACER-CART. He joins his

wife, JoAnn, who holds this special recognition for her work with the BCRTA and ACER-CART.



Judy de Vries, one of our LRTA members, is stepping down as the president of the RR Smith Foundation. She was thanked for her 21 years of hard work and dedication. Judy thanked Beverly Anderson, another LRTA member, for her work with the RR Smith Foundation over the years.

R.R. Smith Memorial Fund Foundation 2019 AGM October 5, 2019 9:00 AM

~submitted by Judy de Vries~

R.R. Smith held its annual meeting on Saturday, October 5th at the Hilton Vancouver Airport Hotel in Richmond. Delegates from around the province attended.

Delegates elected 8 members for a one-year term to the Board of Directors. They are: Steve Bailey (Sunshine Coast), Dave Carter (Burnaby), Gail Chaddock Costello (Langley). Andy Hattrick (Vancouver), Sarah Joyce (Burnaby), Karen Kilbride (Surrey), Barb Mikulec (Vancouver) and Sheila Pither (Vancouver).

The Budget for 2019-2020 was approved and the Financial Statement for 2019 was approved.

Door prizes were donated by: Johnson's, Holiday Inn, B.C.R.T.A., Hilton, and the late Glen Pinch. Delegates made generous donations to the R.R. Smith Memorial Fund Foundation.

Next year's BCRTA AGM will be held Oct 1-3, 2020. A more comprehensive report is available on the BCRTA website.

Respectfully submitted by Heather Anderlini, Judy de Vries, Annette O'Connor, Sue Mackenzie and Maureen Wilson

LUNCHEON REPORT

~Submitted by Maureen Wilson~

Invitations go out through email to 355 LRTA members and 33 to new retirees. We also have two volunteers, *Trixie Martyn* and *Lois Comerford*, who notify members who have requested to be contacted by phone. I would like to thank *Jan Bryce* for doing an excellent job as phone coordinator this past year. The luncheon dates are also always available on our website: <http://www.langleyrta.ca/> It is our goal to make sure that everyone is contacted, so please let me know if you would like to be added to the list. I'd also like to thank so many of you for your quick response to let us know that you wish to attend. This helps us to confirm numbers with Newlands in advance. We also appreciate your notice to us when plans change which keeps us accurate with our numbers. As mentioned by Sue, at our next event is the Langley School District Foundation-sponsored **Silent Auction** on *November 12th*. We hope to see lots of you then! Please contact Maureen Wilson by e-mail (lrrta.35@gmail.com) or by phone: 604-916-0653

RETIRED EDUCATORS' SCHOLARSHIP FUND



The Retired Educators' Scholarship Fund, through the School District Foundation, collected donations from Langley retired educators through Direct Ask, silent auction, and donations at the LRTA luncheons.

Our 'direct ask' donations are lower than usual at this time of year. We would like to meet our goal of presenting 9 scholarships of \$800 to successful applicants who intend to pursue their career in education.

If you would like to donate to the Retired Educators' Scholarship Fund please contact Maureen Pepin at 604-856-8908

All donations over \$25 are eligible for a tax receipt through the Foundation.

LET'S GO GROUP

~Submitted by Judy de Vries~



Let's Go members gather to discuss trips, plan events and go for lunch. If you are interested in what is coming up, please let me know (devriesj@telus.net) and I will put you on the Let's Go list.

TREASURER'S REPORT

~Submitted by John Salmon~

As of June 30, 2019, the financial position of the LRTA was:

\$	Operating Account	\$4081.58	\$
	Advocacy	1645.00	
	Contingency	<u>4413.04</u>	
	Bank Balance	\$10,139.62	

There were no outstanding liabilities.

Your executive committee has approved an operating budget for 2019-2020, which will see operating costs and revenue close to being in balance.

MEMBERSHIP/BCRTA WEBSITE LIAISON REPORT

~ Submitted by Maureen Wilson~



The Langley Branch of the BCRTA is one of the largest and most actively supported branches in the province. This year we added 14 new members, and now have a total of 487 members. We are pleased to welcome our newest members who have joined since our June newsletter: *Gail Chaddock-Costello, Janet Clark, Wendy Cook, George Costello, Mary Gawryluk, Christine Guillemette, Larry Harbord, Miki Kemmett, Tracy Lee-McCall, Fanny Mui, Kelly Robinson, Megan Ryan, Lori Standen, and Greg Tener.*

2019 Retirees!

The following is a list of retiring teachers and administrators (A). I apologize, in advance, if I have left anyone off the list. Welcome to those who have joined our branch.

<i>Raj Aujla</i>	<i>Kathy Lambert</i>	<i>Jean Moir</i>	<i>Brian Rowse</i>
<i>Karen Beatty (A)</i>	<i>Trish Learn</i>	<i>Fanny Mui</i>	<i>Meg Ryan</i>
<i>Debbie Becker</i>	<i>Tracy Lee-McCall</i>	<i>Norm Olding</i>	<i>Patty Shea</i>
<i>Wendy Cook</i>	<i>Calvin Leung (A)</i>	<i>Kristinn Oskarsson</i>	<i>Leslie Shedden</i>
<i>Christine Guillemette</i>	<i>Susan MacDonald (A)</i>	<i>Laurel Peck</i>	<i>Ron Small</i>
<i>Wayne Halabourda</i>	<i>Vern Mainman</i>	<i>Michelle Penner</i>	<i>Lori Standen</i>
<i>Larry Harbord</i>	<i>Elaine Mayes</i>	<i>Angelo Pulice</i>	<i>Greg Tener</i>
<i>Paula Howe (A)</i>	<i>Greig McArthur (A)</i>	<i>Anabela Randa</i>	<i>Lynie Tener</i>
<i>Natalie Hryciuk</i>	<i>Kathy McDonald</i>	<i>Joanne Rempel (A)</i>	<i>Jamie Thomas</i>
<i>Joanne Jakubec</i>	<i>Brian Milner</i>	<i>Ruth Rissiek</i>	<i>Janet Ydenberg</i>
<i>Kathy Janzen</i>	<i>Lisa Mirecki</i>	<i>Susan Robin</i>	

No Bell Brunch

It was wonderful to see some of our recent retirees at our No Bell Brunch on September 3rd. Our colleagues had a great opportunity to re-connect and to congratulate the retirees who attended.



Left to Right: Lisa Mirecki, Elaine Mayes, Patty Shea, Calvin Leung, Kathy Janzen, Lori Standen, Kathy McDonald, Joanne Jakubec



Angelo Pulice enjoyed a 'free brunch', having won the ticket in a draw at the LTA retirement dinner in June.

HERE'S YOUR CHANCE -- ONE YEAR FREE MEMBERSHIP!



Join the BCRTA, and receive your first year FREE!! Please be sure to fill out the forms to take advantage of this offer. It is not automatic.

Go to the Membership page of the BCRTA. Here is a direct link <http://www.bcrta.ca/membership> (you can copy and paste the URL into your browser window). This offer is for anyone who has never joined the BCRTA, not only for new retirees. So, if you know a teacher who has retired in previous years, but has not yet joined the BCRTA, please let them know of this unique opportunity.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEER DOCENTS AT THE LANGLEY CENTENNIAL MUSEUM



Our volunteer museum docents lead K-7 school children through different programs during the school year. A docent is one in a group of 6-10 that delivers a program; training is provided, and the groups are very social as well, many of them being made up of retired teachers! A commitment of about 2 hrs a week is needed from approximately October-May, but there are enough docents to cover vacations or other time off as needed.

Please contact

Jeff Chanette - Acting Museum Educator

Vanessa Spearn - Acting Cultural Services Manager

Langley Centennial Museum - Arts, Culture and Community Initiatives

9135 King Street (PO Box 800), Langley, BC V1M 2S2

Direct line: 604.533.6090



We are trying to be environmentally aware, as well as save on printing and mailing costs, by sending electronic copies of our newsletters, wherever possible. If we do not have your current e-mail address and you would like to be part of our 'green team' and receive your newsletter via e-mail, please let us know by e-mailing us at: lra.35@gmail.com

Thanks,

Maureen Wilson ~ editor of 'Open Road', the LRTA newsletter